



The Michigan Strategic National Stockpile (MISNS) – What it means to you

The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) has large quantities of medicine and medical supplies to protect the American public if there is a public health emergency severe enough to cause local supplies to run out. Once state and local authorities agree that the SNS is needed, medicines can arrive in Michigan within 12 hours. Michigan has a plan to receive and distribute the SNS medicine and medical supplies to local communities as quickly as possible.

What should you know about the medicine in the SNS?

- The medicine in the SNS is FREE for everyone.
- The SNS has stockpiled enough medicine to protect people in several large cities at the same time.
- Federal, state, and local community planners are working together to ensure that the SNS medicines will be delivered to the affected area to protect you and your family in any natural or manmade disaster.

How will you get your medicine if the SNS is delivered to your area?

- Local health departments and hospitals are prepared to receive SNS medicine and provide them to those in the community who need them.
- Information about how to get medicine to protect you and your household will be made available to the community through:
 - Television
 - Radio broadcasts
 - Community websites
 - Social media (like Facebook and Twitter)
 - Michigan 211
 - Your local health department
 - Trusted community leaders

What to expect at a public dispensing site:

- If a bioterrorist attack or widespread disease outbreak ever occurs, your local health department will open temporary emergency “Points of Dispensing” (POD) sites in every affected neighborhood to provide emergency medication to protect against the threat. When travelling to the dispensing site, carpool if possible to reduce traffic. Dress appropriately for the weather.
- Bring a list of the regular medications you and your children take.
- Know how much your children weigh (dosages for children are based on their weight).
- Please bring personal identification with you.
- No one will be asked about immigration status.
- No one will be turned away if you forget to bring all information.



- PODs will only provide medication to prevent or treat the disease threat at hand. They will NOT give out other medications or provide medical care. For example, if a city in Michigan is attacked with anthrax, PODs will only dispense antibiotics for anthrax. They will not give out medicine for other conditions.
- PODs will not treat sick people. People will be told to go to a clinic or hospital if they are sick – not to a POD.
- Expect long lines at the dispensing site. Everyone will need to be patient.
- One person (18 years of age and older) can pick up medication for their entire household.
- Be sure to check on neighbors who may need assistance.
- For more information contact your local health department. Local health department contact information can be found online: <http://www.malph.org/directory>